

During the last three years, President Chen and the people of Taiwan continue the practice of democracy in their country. Today Taiwan has free elections at every level, a free press, and the highest regard for human rights. Taiwan has set a good example for neighboring Asian nations, and other countries around the world, to follow.

President Chen has, on many occasions, stressed that Taiwan and neighboring countries must work together to discuss issues of mutual interests. Any progress toward improved relationships between nations along the Pacific Rim must ensure the interests of the 23 million people living in the Republic of China.

I have enjoyed working with Taiwan's Representative in Washington, Ambassador C.J. Chen. He and his aides do a good job of informing Congress of developments in Taiwan.

As the people of Taiwan prepare to celebrate their president's third anniversary in office, I hope Taiwan will find success in gaining observer status at the World Health Organization this May. As the outbreak of SARS threatens Asia and the world, Taiwan should be included in World Health Organization activities.

Secretary of State Colin Powell recently said, "infectious disease . . . requires an effective and coordinated response at local, national and international levels." SARS is a harsh reminder to the world that diseases know no border, and we must have an effective international coalition to combat SARS, and other infectious diseases we have yet to discover.

Taiwan has been affected by SARS; it is only right to include them in the global campaign against it.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the people of Taiwan for their continuing experiment with democracy. As we have noted before: in a democracy, it is not the first election that defines a democracy . . . it is all those that follow.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS SECURITY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 866, the Wastewater Treatment Works Security Act of 2003, and I commend Chairman YOUNG for sponsoring this important legislation. H.R. 866 authorizes the EPA Administrator to issue grants for vulnerability assessments and security enhancements at our publicly owned treatment works facilities. In addition, the legislation calls on the Administrator to provide much needed technical assistance regarding security measures that can be made to our smaller publicly owned treatment works facilities, that is facilities that serve less than 20,000 people. Lastly, the bill provides critical funding for the improvement of the methodologies and tools used to carry out wastewater vulnerability assessments.

Mr. Speaker, ensuring that our wastewater treatment facilities are properly protected and secure is a crucial aspect of enhancing our Homeland Security. A terrorist attack on a

public treatment facility could be devastating. I commend Chairman YOUNG for his hard work on this legislation, and his efforts to draw attention to the need to improve the security of wastewater treatment facilities.

HONORING CENTER HIGH SCHOOL'S "TOP 10" SENIORS

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the talents and efforts of Center High School's "Top Ten" Academic Seniors for the 2002–2003 school year. These students have an unweighted, cumulative grade point average of between 3.88 and 4.0. These outstanding students have been accepted at the University of California—Los Angeles, UC Davis, UC Santa Cruz, UC San Diego, UC Berkeley, University of the Pacific, Stanford, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and Brigham Young University.

Each of these students were honored at a scholarship dinner on Monday, April 28, 2003, where they were each presented with \$200 scholarships made possible by community donations, and publicly recognized for their academic achievements.

I am very proud of these young men and woman. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Valerie Vinco, Navneet Riar, Tara Dougherty, Natalie Ramirez, Erin Baccay, Dieu-Huyen Nguyen, Adam Luber, Maybelline Disuanco, Kimberly Johnson, and Sabre Shin.

WISCONSIN THANKS JUSTICE WILLIAM BABLITCH FOR 35 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE STATE

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to honor my friend and former colleague, Justice William A. Bablitch, as he celebrates 35 years of service to the people of Wisconsin.

Long known as a vigilant champion of the underprivileged, Justice Bablitch began serving others early in life. At the age of twenty-two, he traveled to Liberia in Western Africa with the Peace Corps, and spent his tour teaching young pupils in a local elementary school. Struck by the conditions that his students endured daily, he returned to his home state impassioned to work on behalf of the public and to study law at the University of Wisconsin.

After receiving his Juris Doctorate in 1968, the Justice spent three years as a District Attorney, during the tumultuous times of the student-led Vietnam protests. By working with the administration of the University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point and the Sheriff's Department of Stevens Point, he helped ensure that in the wake of the Kent State Massacre violence or bloodshed did not erupt at UWSP.

In 1973, Bill turned his talents to representing the people of Portage County in the Wisconsin State Senate where I had the es-

teemed pleasure of serving with him. A strong advocate for civil and human rights, Senator Bablitch pushed for legislation reform in discrimination, sexual assault, child abuse, and divorce law. His role as majority leader paved the way for public accessibility to Wisconsin government by creation of Wisconsin's Open Meeting and campaign reform laws.

Always a defender of social justice, Justice Bablitch's career has been highlighted by his twenty years in the Wisconsin Supreme Court where he has fought for the protection of consumers, the environment, and a patient's right to know.

While away from the office, Bill spends time with his wife, Anne, daughter, Bulleh, and granddaughters, Layteh and Nancy, at his homes in Northern Wisconsin and Hawaii. Whether fly-fishing with family and friends or cooking a meal for them, he has filled the lives of those around him with laughter and happiness.

Justice William Bablitch's retirement is certainly well deserved, but his leadership and passion for serving the best interests of Wisconsin citizens will be truly missed. Congratulations, my friend.

IN RECOGNITION OF LOUISE DANKBERG ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Louise Dankberg on the occasion of her retirement. Ms. Dankberg is an incomparable leader who has consistently contributed to our community for over three decades in notable ways.

After 34 years, serving in a variety of positions, Ms. Dankberg is retiring from the New York State Department of Labor. Among her many achievements during her tenure, Ms. Dankberg has served as Loaned Executive to State Employees Federated Appeal (SEFA) of United Way, where she raised over \$750,000 in six campaigns in 51 state agencies. As Executive Administrative Assistant to the New York City Director, Ms. Dankberg was responsible for major decisions of staff changes and successfully developed communications between branch offices and district managers. She also supervised 125 professional and support staff while serving as Job Service Supervisor. In addition, Ms. Dankberg acted to resolve issues, train new staff, and corresponded on behalf of the Governor and Commissioner of Labor in her role as Unemployment Insurance Supervisor of Telephone Call Center.

Through a variety of professional and civic activities, Ms. Dankberg has touched countless lives in the New York area. Ms. Dankberg has been very active within the New York State government. She has been the Female District Leader of the 74th Assembly District since 1993 and a New York State County Committee Member since 1973. She served as the Beth R. Cosnow Memorial Chairperson and as a New York State Committeewoman in 1993, and worked as a delegate to Supreme Court Judicial Conventions from 1971 to 1993. For over thirty years she has been a liaison with elected officials for the community